

IN THE CLAIMS:

1.-2. (Cancelled)

3. (Currently Amended) An in-substrate selective ~~electric-chemical~~ electrochemical treatment system for finding and repairing pinholes in an active substrate comprising:

holding means for holding an insulating substrate;

an electrode ~~connected, in the~~ for connection at a periphery of the an insulating substrate being held by the holding means, to a conductive pattern ~~formed~~ located on the such an insulating substrate held by the holding means said electrode being covered with an insulating layer;

chemical solution confining means for confining a chemical solution ~~in~~ to only a specified region on the an insulating substrate, the specified region being smaller than the an insulating substrate or slightly larger than an image displaying section on an active substrate formed on the an insulating substrate;

a reversed polarity electrode plate for applying an electric charge to the chemical solution, the electric charge having polarity opposite to ~~that~~ an electric charge of said electrode; ~~the conductive pattern; and~~

Serial No.: 09/868,577

chemical solution supplying and discharging means for supplying and discharging the chemical solution to and from ~~the~~ an insulating substrate; and

means for measuring the value of a current flowing between said electrode and said reversed polarity electrode plate.

4. (Currently Amended) An in-substrate selective ~~electric chemical~~ electrochemical treatment system according to Claim 3,

wherein the reversed polarity electrode plate is comprises a double-purpose reversed polarity electrode plate having a specified size and shape smaller than ~~the~~ an insulating substrate ~~in accordance with a specified rule or~~ slightly larger than the image displaying section of ~~the~~ an active substrate formed on ~~the~~ an insulating substrate ~~in accordance with a specified rule,~~ the double-purpose reversed polarity electrode plate also ~~serving as~~ comprising the chemical solution confining means for confining the chemical solution in a gap obtained by ~~making~~ locating the double-purpose reversed polarity electrode plate close to ~~the~~ an insulating substrate.

5. (Currently Amended) An in-substrate selective ~~electric chemical~~ electrochemical treatment system according to Claim 3,

wherein the reversed polarity electrode plate is a double-purpose reversed polarity electrode plate, which is smaller than the an insulating substrate, ~~in accordance with a specified rule~~ or slightly larger than the image displaying section of the an active substrate formed on the an insulating substrate ~~in accordance with a specified rule~~, and which also serves as comprises the chemical solution confining means with further comprising a porous soft material plate ~~whose~~ having a surface facing the an insulating substrate is and impregnated with the chemical solution.

6. (Currently Amended) An in-substrate selective ~~electric chemical~~ electrochemical treatment system according to Claim 3,

wherein the reversed polarity electrode plate has a specified size and shape smaller than the an insulating substrate ~~in accordance with a specified rule~~ or slightly larger than the image displaying section of the an active

Serial No.: 09/868,577

substrate formed on ~~the~~ an insulating substrate in accordance with a specified rule; and

wherein the chemical solution confining means ~~is a frame-like~~ comprises a frame-shaped container type chemical solution confining means which has, at ~~the~~ upper and lower ends thereof, an opening slightly larger than the reversed polarity electrode plate having the specified size and shape and which ~~is a frame-like~~ comprises a frame-shaped container in which a flexible sealing material is attached to an area around the opening at the lower end;

the treatment system further comprising pressing means for pressing the ~~frame-like~~ frame-shaped container type chemical solution confining means against ~~the~~ an insulating substrate, with the reverse polarity electrode plate being ~~stored~~ located within the ~~frame-like~~ frame-shaped container type-chemical solution confining means.

7. (Currently Amended) An in-substrate selective electric chemical treatment system according to Claim 3,

wherein the chemical solution confining means is a ~~box-like~~ box-shaped container type chemical solution confining means which ~~retains~~ for retaining the reversed polarity

electrode plate therein and ~~which is a box-like~~ comprises a box-shaped container having a flexible sealing material embedded in an open end thereof that is smaller than ~~the~~ an insulating substrate ~~in accordance with a specified rule or~~ slightly larger than the image displaying section of ~~the~~ an active substrate formed on ~~the~~ an insulating substrate ~~in accordance with a specified rule;~~

the treatment system further comprising pressing means for pressing the ~~box-like~~ box-shaped container ~~type~~ chemical solution confining means against ~~the~~ an insulating substrate through the sealing member.

8. (Currently Amended) An in-substrate selective ~~electric chemical~~ electrochemical treatment system according to Claim 6, further comprising washing means for washing, with a washing liquid, the chemical solution away from a chemical solution treatment space after completion of ~~a treatment such as inspection,~~ the chemical solution treatment space being ~~formed by pressing~~ comprising the frame-like frame-shaped container ~~type~~ chemical solution confining means pressed against ~~the~~ an insulating substrate.

9. (Currently Amended) An in-substrate selective ~~electric-chemical~~ electrochemical treatment system according to Claim 4, further comprising electrode plate temperature controlling means for controlling the temperature of the reversed polarity electrode plate by flowing temperature-controlling liquid within the reversed polarity electrode plate.

10. (Currently Amended) An in-substrate selective ~~electric-chemical~~ electrochemical treatment system according to Claim 6, further comprising:

chemical solution circulating means for circulating the chemical solution within the chemical solution treatment space ~~formed~~ defined by ~~pressing~~ the ~~frame-like~~ frame-shaped container ~~type~~ chemical solution confining means or the ~~box-like~~ box-shaped container ~~type~~ chemical solution confining means pressed against the ~~an~~ insulating substrate; and

chemical solution temperature controlling means for controlling the temperature of the chemical solution.

11. (Currently Amended) An ~~electric-chemical~~ electrochemical treatment process for treating a substrate by

Serial No.: 09/868,577

use of an in-substrate selective ~~electric~~ chemical electrochemical treatment system for finding and repairing pinholes of an active substrate, comprising which comprises (a) ~~holding means for holding an insulating substrate; (b) an electrode connected, in the~~ for connection at a periphery of the an insulating substrate being held by the holding means, to a conductive pattern ~~formed~~ located on the ~~such an~~ insulating substrate, said electrode being covered with an insulating layer; held by the holding means; (c) chemical solution confining means for confining a chemical solution in to only a specified region, the specified region being smaller than the an insulating substrate or slightly larger than an image displaying section on an active substrate formed on the an insulating substrate; (d) a reversed polarity electrode plate for applying an electric charge to the chemical solution, the electric charge having polarity opposite to that an electric charge of the conductive patternsaid electrode; and (e) ~~chemical solution supplying and discharging means for supplying and discharging the chemical solution to and from the an insulating substrate, the treatment process comprising:~~

~~a holding step of holding the an insulating substrate having the a conductive pattern on the holding means;~~

Serial No.: 09/868,577

~~a chemical solution confining step of supplying a~~
predetermined amount of ~~the~~ a specified chemical solution to
~~the~~ a specified region on ~~the~~ an insulating substrate and
confining ~~it in the~~ solution to the specified region;

~~a contacting step of making~~ locating the reversed
polarity electrode plate close to ~~the~~ an insulating substrate
such that the reversed polarity electrode plate comes in
contact with the chemical solution which is on ~~the~~ an upper
surface of ~~the~~ an insulating substrate;

~~a polarity connecting step of bringing the electrode into~~
contact with ~~the~~ a conductive pattern in the periphery of the
an insulating substrate; and

~~a treatment step of carrying out a specified treatment by~~
~~applying~~ applying a specified direct current between ~~the~~ said
electrode and said ~~the~~ reversed polarity electrode plate.

12. (Currently Amended) An ~~electric—chemical~~
electrochemical treatment process for treating a substrate by
use of an in-substrate selective ~~electric—chemical~~
electrochemical treatment system for finding and repairing
pinholes of an active substrate, comprising ~~which comprises~~
~~(a) holding means for holding an insulating substrate; (b) an~~

Serial No.: 09/868,577

electrode ~~connected, in the~~ for connection at a periphery of
~~the~~ an insulating substrate being held by the holding means,
to a conductive pattern ~~formed~~ located on the such an
insulating substrate, said electrode being covered with an
insulating layer; ~~held by the holding means;~~ (e) ~~a reversed~~
polarity electrode plate having a specified size and shape
smaller than ~~the~~ an insulating substrate in accordance with a
~~specified rule~~ or slightly larger than an image displaying
section ~~of~~ on an active substrate formed on the an insulating
~~substrate in accordance with a specified rule;~~ (d) ~~container~~
type chemical solution confining means ~~which is~~ comprising a
~~frame-like~~ frame-shaped or ~~box-like~~ box-shaped container
having, at ~~its~~ a lower end or ~~its~~ upper and lower ends
thereof, an opening slightly larger than ~~the~~ such a reversed
polarity electrode plate and having a flexible sealing
material attached to an area around the opening at the lower
end; and (e) ~~pressing~~ means for pressing the container type
chemical solution confining means against ~~the~~ an insulating
substrate, with the reversed polarity electrode plate being
stored in the container type chemical solution confining
means, the treatment process comprising:

Serial No.: 09/868,577

~~a holding step of holding the an insulating substrate having the a conductive pattern on the holding means;~~

~~a chemical solution supplying step of supplying a specified chemical solution to a space defined by the container type chemical solution confining means and the an insulating substrate;~~

~~an electrode connecting step of connecting the electrode to the conductive pattern in the periphery of the an insulating substrate; and~~

~~a substrate treatment step of applying a specified direct current between the electrode and the reversed polarity electrode plate; and~~

~~measuring the value of a current flowing between said electrode and said reversed polarity electrode plate.~~

~~to apply a specified treatment to the insulating substrate.~~

13. (Withdrawn) A liquid crystal device comprising an insulating substrate and a liquid crystal packed between the insulating substrate and an opposed substrate or color filter, the insulating substrate having, on one main surface,

Serial No.: 09/868,577

a plurality of scan lines each composed of one or more metal layers, or either or both of common capacitance lines and opposed electrodes in addition to scan lines;

a plurality of signal lines each composed of one or more metal layers and crossing the scan lines at right angles through one or more insulating layers;

an insulated gate transistor provided for every crossover point at which a scan line and a signal line cross each other; and

at least one pixel electrode connected to a drain of the insulated gate transistors;

wherein pinholes of the insulating layer formed on lines are filled up with an insulating material, the lines excluding the signal lines and drain lines but including the scan lines, or either or both of the common capacitance lines and the opposed electrodes in addition to the scan lines.

14. (Withdrawn) A liquid crystal device according to Claim 13,

wherein the scan lines or either or both of the common capacitance lines and the opposed electrode in addition to the

Serial No.: 09/868,577

scan lines on the substrate are made from a metal that can be anodized, and

wherein the bottoms of the pinholes of the insulating layer, which covers the scan lines or either or both of the common capacitance lines and the opposed electrodes in addition to the scan lines, are filled up with an anodic oxide of said metal.

15. (Withdrawn) A liquid crystal device according to Claim 13, wherein pinholes of the insulating layer formed on the scan lines or either or both of the common capacitance lines and the opposed electrodes in addition to the scan lines are filled up with an organic insulating material by electrodeposition.

16. (Withdrawn) A process of inspecting an active substrate in a liquid crystal device comprising an insulating substrate and a liquid crystal packed between the insulating substrate and an opposed substrate or color filter, the insulating substrate having, on one main surface,

Serial No.: 09/868,577

a plurality of scan lines each composed of one or more metal layers, or either or both of common capacitance lines and opposed electrodes in addition to scan lines;

a plurality of signal lines each composed of one or more metal layers and crossing the scan lines at right angles through one or more insulating layers;

an insulated gate transistor provided for every crossover point at which a scan line and a signal line cross each other; and

at least one pixel electrode connected to a drain of the insulated gate transistors;

the process comprising:

a holding step of holding the insulating substrate, with the surface where the scan lines and the signal lines exist facing up;

an electrode connecting step of connecting an electrode to the scan lines of the held insulating substrate;

a chemical solution confining step of retaining, on the held insulating substrate, a reversed polarity electrode plate having a polarity opposite to the polarity of said electrode and confining an electrolytic solution between the

Serial No.: 09/868,577

reversed polarity electrode plate and a specified position on the insulating substrate; and

a pinhole detection step of inspecting the presence or absence of pinholes on the insulating layer formed on the scan lines or either or both of the common capacitance lines and the opposed electrodes in addition to the scan lines by a current measurement which is made by applying an electric field between the reversed polarity electrode plate and the scan lines, or either or both of the common capacitance lines and the opposed electrodes in addition to the scan lines, while coordinating with the chemical solution confining step.

17. (Withdrawn) A process of repairing an active substrate in a liquid crystal device comprising an insulating substrate and a liquid crystal packed between the insulating substrate and an opposed substrate or color filter, the insulating substrate having, on one main surface,

a plurality of scan lines each composed of one or more metal layers, or either or both of common capacitance lines and opposed electrodes in addition to scan lines;

Serial No.: 09/868,577

a plurality of signal lines each composed of one or more metal layers and crossing the scan lines at right angles through one or more insulating layers;

an insulated gate transistor provided for every crossover point at which a scan line and a signal line cross each other; and

at least one pixel electrode connected to a drain of the insulated gate transistors;

the process comprising:

a holding step of holding the insulating substrate, with the surface where the scan lines and the signal lines exist facing up;

an electrode connecting step of connecting an electrode to the scan lines of the held insulating substrate;

a chemical solution confining step of retaining, on the held insulating substrate, a reversed polarity electrode plate having a polarity opposite to the polarity of said electrode and confining a chemical solution between the reversed polarity electrode plate and a specified position on the insulating substrate; and

an inactivating step of electrically inactivating a scan line within a pinhole of the insulating layer formed on the

Serial No.: 09/868,577

scan lines or either or both of the common capacitance lines and the opposed electrodes in addition to the scan lines or electrically inactivating either or both of a common capacitance line and an opposed electrode in addition to a scan line within the pinhole, the electric inactivation being carried out by applying an electric field between the reversed polarity electrode plate and the scan lines or either or both of the common capacitance lines and the opposed electrodes in addition to the scan lines, while coordinating with the chemical solution confining step.

18. (Withdrawn) An active substrate repairing process according to Claim 17,

wherein the inactivating step is an anodic oxidation step of anodizing the scan line or either or both of the common capacitance line and the opposed electrode in addition to the scan line within the pinhole of the insulating layer formed on the scan lines or either or both of the common capacitance lines and the opposed electrodes in addition to the scan lines, by applying an electric field between the reversed polarity electrode plate and an active substrate in which the scan lines or either or both of the common capacitance lines

Serial No.: 09/868,577

and the opposed electrodes in addition to the scan lines are each made of a metal layer that can be anodized.

19. (Withdrawn) An active substrate repairing process according to Claim 17,

wherein the chemical solution confining step is an electrodeposition solution confining step of confining an insulating organic electrodeposition solution as the chemical solution, and

wherein the inactivating step is an filling-up insulation step of filling the pinhole of the insulating layer, which is formed on the scan lines or on either or both of the common capacitance lines and the opposed electrodes in addition to the scan lines, up with an organic insulating material, by applying an electric field between the reversed polarity electrode plate and the insulating layer having the scan lines or either or both of the common capacitance lines and the opposed electrodes in addition to the scan lines.

20. (Withdrawn) An active substrate repairing process according to Claim 17,

Serial No.: 09/868,577

wherein the inactivating step is an electric corrosion step of electrically corroding the scan line or either or both of the common capacitance line and the opposed electrode in addition to the scan line within the pinhole of the insulating layer formed on the scan lines or either or both of the common capacitance lines and the opposed electrodes in addition to the scan lines, by applying an electric field between the reversed polarity electrode plate and an active substrate in which the scan lines or either or both of the common capacitance lines and the opposed electrodes in addition to the scan lines are each made of a metal layer that can be electrically processed.

21. (Currently Amended) An in-substrate selective ~~electric-chemical~~ electrochemical treatment system according to Claim 7, further comprising fluid supply and discharge means for supplying and discharging at least one of a chemical solution, washing liquid and drying gas to and from the ~~box-like~~ box-shaped container.

22. (Currently Amended) A chemical treatment process for a substrate by use of an in-substrate selective chemical

Serial No.: 09/868,577

treatment system having ~~(a)~~ comprising a stage for holding an insulating substrate, ~~(b)~~ a box-like a box-shaped container in which a flexible sealing material is embedded around an open end in a region, ~~which~~ that is smaller than ~~the~~ an insulating substrate or slightly larger than an active substrate formed on ~~the~~ an insulating substrate, the open end being smaller than said region, ~~(c)~~ a mechanism for pressing the box-like box-shaped container against ~~the~~ an insulating substrate, and ~~(d)~~ a mechanism for supplying and discharging a chemical solution, pure water or drying gas to and from the pressed ~~box-like~~ box-shaped container, the process comprising:

~~a holding step of holding the~~ an insulating substrate on the stage;

~~a pressing step of pressing the box-like~~ first container against ~~the~~ an insulating substrate;

~~a specified treatment step of applying a specified chemical treatment to the~~ an insulating substrate by supplying the chemical solution to the ~~box-like~~ box-shaped container;

~~a washing step of washing the inside of the box-like~~ box-shaped container and ~~the~~ an insulating substrate by supplying a washing fluid to them after discharge of the chemical solution; and

Serial No.: 09/868,577

~~a drying step of drying the inside of the box-like first~~
container and ~~the~~ an insulating substrate by supplying drying
gas to them after discharge of the washing fluid.

23. (Withdrawn) A substrate having a conductive pattern,
wherein pinholes of an insulating film formed on metallic
signal lines are insulated by an oxide of the metal of the
metallic signal lines.

24. (Withdrawn) A substrate according to Claim 1, which
is for use in a display device having a liquid crystal, an
optical shutter or an optical logic element.